

# DOLL TALK

FOR . . . .  
COLLECTORS

Volume 9, Number 7

July-August, 1952

## GOOHOOOLIGANS, etcetera, etcetera

Every so often are accumulated enough new and renewed dolls of odd construction to erupt into a Doll Talk story. The queers which sparked the outburst this time are assembled from such strange and unexpected stuffs we could scarcely believe our eyes. There came a box of fantastic "Nature Boy" samples marked as from "Mrs. Sample," which we thought a fictitious nom-de-plume, but it wasn't. That was really the name of the lad Lucile had promised to love, honor and obey. Surely the Goohooligans (accent on hoo) are the offspring of one, and one only, riotous imagination.

"Books in the running brooks, sermons in stones," was her credo that expanded into pixies in all the queer bumps and buttons that nature dabbed onto tree trunks. One tough variety of pod developed such a pair of gracefully curved horns that it simply had to become a "Devi-goolian!"

There were twigs that actually looked more like bodies than the torsos and limbs in many a modern painting. Lucille Sample gath-

ered them greedily, dabs of dozens of things from the wood lot and weed patch and garden, sorting and fitting and gleefully creating—Goohooligans!

So now may we say, in what we hope to be selling copy, you cannot afford to miss these if you cherish a feeling for doll novelties. The odd group always costs less money, attracts more attention and is more sheer fun to accumulate than dolls in any other category. Kimport resists a hoard of "original" offerings, items that lack the magic spark, but these fantastic little funnies, wiggled their way right into acceptance. Hope you like them too; some are as tall as

6", others short as 3½". The two main types are sketched. No. 199G, \$1.50 each.

Another premier, too late to be sketched, came in from southern Florida, straight from its designer's own banana tree. It's a witch "Nanna" all in beige tan



NOTICE—No price for any article listed or described herein exceeds the ceiling price for that article, as determined under applicable O.P.S. ceiling price regulations.

coloring with pleasantly wrinkled complexion of varnished walnut. She wears a peaked hat and has flowing hair of palmetto fiber, trailing gown of shredded banana leaves, and rides a sturdy broom of bound pine needles—oh, 10" long! Length of this pert witch doll is about 14" over all; there is a raffia loop with which to attach her to a wall, and she's to assure good luck, — et cetera, No. 190S, \$1.50.

Here are a few paragraphs on "Oddies" that have long been retained as Kimport regulars because each one has so much in its favor. New to you, though, if you don't have them.



"Tidewater Tess" is not only an ingenious combination of unbelievable bits but a perfectly sweet little doll, a sort of "Mrs. Mc-Thing" of a person with dainty

features painted on her sea-grape head, and for her ruffled apron a bit of conc spawn; her pedigree page explains. 2" tall, No. 190T, \$1.50.

Also of sea stuff is Lucy Limpet, a regular little Gibson girl in flounced skirts to a tiny waist band, picture hat and posies. She is properly proportioned, pretty of face, thoroughly artistic. Her height is about 3", No. 190L, \$2.95. There is a recent arrival; Mrs. Layton filled a request of long standing and sent one box full in miniature size. You thought

the regulars were small? These are only 1½" tall, but sheer perfection. No. 190LM, also \$2.95 each.



Tobacco "Jeeter" is mostly corn husk, because those delicate fine tobacco leaves extolled in advertising (sh!) don't hold up structurally in a doll! He's a skinny naughty looking little character made in the deep south—to order — for Kimport — for you. No. 199HF, about 4" tall. 75c.

Have you a rabbits foot doll? Personally, I've used these for little good luck gifts many a time although they're not guaranteed to be from left hind foot, dark o' the moon, etc. Dressed by Zuni Indians in wovern bead costumes, little squaw, No. 700A, 75c, or bonneted brave. No. 700, is 95c.

Very recently in Doll Talk the return of Ada Odenrider's emaciated Hindoo Orator was an-



nounced. He is a seasonal doll with snapdragon pod head that turns out to be definitely a cartoon version of the great Ghandi. Artistic, autographed, amazing!—3 inches tall, No. 34B, \$2.00.

Then there is another pretty one, 2" Peachie whose hobble skirt is a crinkly, polished peach bit, but thats only the beginning. Bodice is a prune seed, head from a plum one, bonnet a tiny acorn cap, onion seed buttons, muff a wee Australian pine cone. Mercy me, what will be

Plenty "Odd" is tiny "Princess left to tell on her pedigree page? No. 190P, \$1.50.

Sioux"—comes from Sioux City—so that's what her maker named this one. "Princess Popcorn" would be more descriptive, or why "Princess" at all? Stubby, nubbin ears of corn with trailing garment of husk, sketched features, and it's a doll. No. 67, only 3½ inches tall, reduced from a dollar to 75c; she's last year's crop, poor Princess.



There are many cleverly made nut dolls. Small pecan-headed Zeke and Delsey that we use as Mississippi State folk are Nos.

165 and 165A at \$1.25 each.

Big pecan-headed Georgia George (doin' time, in stripes), is too comic to offend even his aristocratic white folk. He's No. 189, at \$2.50.

Hickory nut headed Elmer, Ozarks, is a funny one also. No. 157, \$1.95.

Best bargain in nuts, as you can find out at any counter selling them, is peanuts, and so it is in nut dolls. You cannot beat Daisy Welsh's school girl, 199A, or the boy, 199, at 75c each. Yes, \$1.50 for a smartly made 3½" pair.

The Connecticut Yankee peddler with nutmeg head has long been a favorite of the state series. Bandy-legged, tricky looking, high hatted, little Yankee peddler always carries a bolt of really old calico, and goodness knows, what else! No. 76, Connecticut Trader, 8 inches tall, standing on a base, \$3.75.

Two more nuts; Beloved Uncle Tom, signed by Helen Fender, who had the bravery to select black walnuts for her doll's head. They buffer down into wonderful complexion. 8½ inches tall, lovable, No. 49, \$2.50.

Also beautifully made is Clara Mathew's Acorn Scot. He's a precious 6" lad who can pose a Highland fling. No. 124, \$1.95.

Special. Should you decide to assemble a conversation group of "Goo-hooligans, etc., etc."—amount \$5.00 or more—time now, before September 1st. Add them up and say, 'Send along FREE a 12" woven Bullrushes Bandit from Mexico. This applies to these odd material dolls only. On all orders under \$1.00 please add postage.

## FOR J. L. A.

All members of The Doll Collectors of America, Inc., have felt the loss of charter member, Miss Jennie L. Abbot. Her passing occurred last March 30th, and as with all of us, much unfinished endeavor remains for other hands. With Club President, Mrs. Earle E. Andrews, Jennie Abbot deserves major thanks for the concise, authentic material assembled for the four volumes of D.C.A. Manual, 1940, 1942, 1946, and 1949. Aside from her tireless research, Miss Abbot was Historian of our Doll Collectors Club, and as regular occupation, Children's Librarian of the Westfield Athenaeum.

This may seem like a detail, but it is in the nature of fulfilling a promise. Mistakes are possible in all our work, perhaps that helps keep us humble as well as eager to improve. But Miss Abbot was a perfectionist and there had come to her attention a mis-statement that was annoying her, at the time of her last illness. In their article on Walking Dolls (1942 Supplement) Dolly Walker, by Harry Coleman, is given two pages, with pictured reprint of patent, etc. In Mrs. St. George's "Dolls of Three Centuries," Page 20, she wrote that this article credited Dolly Walker to Emma Clear. Both publications explain how the Clears subsequently bought the patent rights from H. H. Coleman. We had acceded to Miss Abbot that Doll Talk would be a widely read place in which to note this error. Sorry that this comes so late, but Alice Andrews and the host of loving friends will know that this little correction is a tribute which gentle J. L. A. would have approved.

## ABOVE CRITERION

In Ladies' Home Journal for May (1952) on page 104, there is a full color advertisement in which an antique doll is effectively used. Mrs. Frank Glendenning, to whom the fine old doll belongs, had mentioned in one of her letters that it's photograph was to be used. It was an effective and convincing sales idea, and from our point of view, one more reason for owning a collection of dolls.

We were pleased, too, to see the credit line, and oh, yes there was also a picture of Mrs. Emily Post, but that was farther down in the ad!

## CHARACTERISTICS LEFT INTACT

Mrs. R. V. Rust writes she is now minus some inner trouble spots and a lot of outside capital, but enjoying the luxury of recuperation with time to "play dolls." In her usual breezy style, Lois writes:

"For Pete's sake, don't let Doll Talk expire. Why, it's the light of my life! The last issue came as I was leaving for the hospital. I stuffed it into my purse and read it while waiting for my 'operation.' Then as I came out from under, the only thing I could think of was dolls. I began to ask if they had come yet and of course the nurses and doctors thought I was a little off. I would explain carefully that I had ordered this, that, and the other doll and thought they should be here by now, but finally, I just gave up. I realized afterwards that I just thought I had ordered them as a result of reading the Doll Talk while waiting."



## PICTURE AHEAD

Along with her order for "Wanderbub," artistic Kathleen Warren painted the following word sketch. Isn't it delightful!

"I received for Christmas a pair of these lovely Hummel dolls which a friend of a friend brought from Germany last fall. "Gretl" and "Seppi," later 'Hansl," was given me but I feel the addition of 'Wanderbub' will be perfect.

Because the dolls seem to be looking up with that Hummel expression of wonder on their faces, I have arranged with them a small driftwood tree, in which an owl is sitting. On a lower branch is a wee squirrel and to the left of him a little higher is a nest with a bird in it. The dolls do seem to focus pretty well on the whole, and so the entire group is interesting."

"Interesting" sounds like a bit of British understatement. 'Bet many a choice doll who lives packed away, except for "rotation" or special exhibits will be green eyed with envy if this story ever reaches their china ears!

## OF FIRST MAGNITUDE

In the fabulous collection of Mrs. Henry P. Kendall, are three of those prized "Bazaars." These by the way, are coveted above old English Pedler dolls, because each tiny store has customers and sales-folk—not one doll with a tray of wares but shelves, counters and cabinets all stocked with miniatures beyond compare!

The Kendall prize Bazaar was made around 1825, not all in one year, by Caroline Dodgeon who was the mother of Lewis Carroll.

## KEEPSAKES AND KEEP-BUSIES

In friendly letters to Kimport there are so many ideas for doll collectors. For instance, Mary Kramar's pair of "children" that certainly should become treasured heirlooms. These two bisque dolls reminded her of her own good looking son and daughter, so she bought them. Eventually they were dressed, "Richard" in sailor costume cut from his World War II blues, "Mary Dana" in pieces from a school sweater and skirt. I am certain that in her picture with these two dolls, there was a "flock" of battle ribbons displayed. Richard, the Real, is still in government service; he is now in England while dark eyed Mary has marched off with husband and baby son to a distant state.

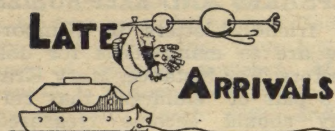
Mrs. Kramar went on to collect and study, to enthuse others and accumulate a well selected doll family of about 500. No wonder she writes, "With the children" no so far away, again I say, "Thank God for Dolls!"

## CANNY

In a clipping service story of prizes awarded at a local doll show, was this intriguing bit:

"Mrs. Robello's dolls came from all over the world. Her tiniest is a nut doll about two inches high which came from Scotland from a great, great, grandmother. The nut is the head, the dress is of taffeta lined with crinoline."

Now why couldn't my own grandmother, Eliza Duncan of Covenanter stock, have left some such fragile treasure with her more substantial stuff? I covet!



The first on our list here this time would well deserve a front page story, but we know you will find them, and certainly, if you collect foreign pairs welcome these pretty children from Austria. It has been years since any dolls came to Kimport from the old Viennese area, except a few all felt, caricature types. But "Andreas" and "Maria Theresa" are dolls like used to be made in Central Europe; tautly strung bodies are jointed, even at the wrists. Heads are smooth composition with painted blue eyes, wigs blonde (pure Nordic) and their well made costumes are of good peasant prints and felt

with pretty braid, button and buckle trim. Andreas' staff is topped with a festive bouquet; Maria T. carries an umbrella. Height 10", No. 207 for the boy and 207A for his sister. \$6.25 each.



Just a year ago on our front page, was pictured a pair of gay Spaniards. There were a lot of them, even a few are left, but for replacement we ordered this matador—and more girls to dance for his pleasure. How a felt-faced doll can be so comic, so pompous, and so precious would be hard to explain but unwrap your package containing Don Ferdinando and there is your answer! His stance, his expression, fur hair, fancy costume—all are entrancing. And so is the girl friend. You can fairly see her turn and tromp, and suddenly swish her long flounced skirt around! About 11" tall, super-Spanish Don is No. 116B, she 1006C and they're \$7.50 each.



Last Doll Talk, front page, was Josette from Berne, who almost got held over because no boy friends came in that box from Switzerland. He's here through now, and we called him Joey - Pal Joey. Round-cheeked, properly costumed, this chubby import exactly matches chubby Josette. His cream colored felt pants are cut on a tricky pattern; there is a white cross on a red disc on his black cap, and the cap perches on top a brown, bobbed wig. 4½" tall, So. 1053, \$2.75.

For you who have saved more dimes for a better Swiss doll, we have it, thank you, yes -- a few of those charming all wooden, hand carved, jointed girls which are made so beautifully there. For the one to offer you this time we chose Trudy, a sweet-faced peasant in the picturesque dress of Zurich. Silk textiles made her canton famous so 10" Trudy wears a black ruffled cap and ample skirt of silk like material. Her blouse is snowy Swiss mull, fancy bodice and shoes of wool felt. Completely jointed and cleverly carved, No. 1054, \$14.95.

Quite a lot from Europe this time, but one more pair, adorable Kathe Kruse boy and girl from Germany. They cost so much we only ordered a dozen, but a few lucky people will have one, or the two to love. First designed by Frau Kruse, to look like her own "Kinder" these most lifelike of fine dolls were the favorites, some thirty years ago. Again being made with those same childlike faces that look like oil portraits, we offer "Jock-erle" and "Marzartchen" in darling outfits with much hand knitting combined with suede for him and a quaint dark print for her.

18" tall, and chubby, the Kathe Kruse children are No. 611 and 611A, \$35.00 each, yes, \$70.00 for the precious pair.

Certainly there are Late Arrivals down in the lower price bracket, plenty of those pretty Japanese imported girls, 5" size, that we called "Mommy Etsu" and 2" "Minnie Etsu." They have wigs, inset eyes, pretty silk kimonos with gold threads through the wide obis. Numbers 807 and 801 at \$1.45 and 95c respectively.



From our own nation, a most American pair is always those Rodeo dolls, "Rex and Queenie", made by Anna Laura Bonham of Wyoming. These bendable, fancy dressed Westerners have long been in our regular line. A fresh new box is always fun to open—such

shiny bright shirts, such chaps and leather skirts, such real royalty of the Ranch! About 8 inches tall, No. 148 and 148A for Rex and Queenie, \$3.95 each.

More gypsies came in recently too, proving again that lots of you like pretty or handsome dolls. These are, and beautiful workmanship too in every stitch that goes into Doris Serafini's silken, hand made, little Romany folk. Six and a half inch Gypsy Lass is No. 120A, at \$3.50. Boy can be had too, No. 120, same price.

### FOR ILLUSTRATION

More than four years ago Miss Mabel Carter sent in a picture of her bisque headed Swiss pair, bought over 60 years ago. They are 6-inch, sleeping eye children with composition bodies, but they do rate a bit of special story. Miss Carter had posed them with a woolly lamb in front of a flannelgraph background of chalet and rocky hills. This had been reproduced in a Sunday School publication, "Childhood Days" along with a friendship story of "Karl and Anneli" and the Bible verse in Swiss or Zurich dialect of German.

Since, at long last, we have Swiss dolls to send you, thanks again, Mabel Carter, for showing us one more use into which collection dolls may fit.

### NOT BY A COLLECTOR

Nina A. Hawes, New Jersey, sent this prissy doll poem along with her Doll Talk subscription. It was from an early day Primer, back when children's verse or prose left no question about the moral, either included therein or tacked on for all to contemplate!

### PLEASANT VIEW

Of course there are many doll collectors who have never bought a doll from Kimport. Doll Talk would not only fade away, but die also if its percentage of readers were heavily in that balance, but---there are extenuating circumstances. We can't help but "love y'all" as we say in Missouri, especially when such letters come to Kimport as one written by Mrs. Susan Bigwood, of Malden, Mass.:

"Thank you for your note. Some fifteen years ago I had the pleasure of visiting Europe and brought back with me a half dozen inexpensive dolls from different countries. These, with two I had kept for many years, formed the nucleus of my collection (if it can be called that), which now totals 142. Every other doll I have has been given to me. I do enjoy Doll Talk very much and often wish I might send for this or that doll. But as I am 85 years of age and do not have much money for anything but the necessities, I content myself with looking and reading about them. Since I do not get out much, I often "visit" with my dolls of different countries, trying to picture their surroundings and life. I never cared much for dolls as a girl, but now I am old, I truly love those I have. Each time that Doll Talk comes, I sit right down to see what it contains. You people must give pleasure to many people."

Suppose, dear little girl,  
That your doll did break her head.  
Did you make it any better,  
By the tears that you have shed?

Would it not be better  
To treat it as a joke,  
And say you're glad 'twas Dolly's,  
And not your head that broke?



## TERM PAPER

And now from Miss Mary Brant of Washington, comes a comprehensive thesis of well organized material on her chosen subject, "Dolls as an Expression of National Culture." She admits to some preliminary difficulty in persuading her English professor that such a topic would entail enough sincere research to warrant the scholarly type of essay he required. When permission was granted, it was with instructions to plan the doll material first around a time viewpoint, secondly to subdivide between European and non European traditions, then to consider the use of dolls today, country by country, throughout the world.

Miss Mary's twenty-three typewritten pages contain a vast lot of source material from current doll books, from magazines and from Doll Talk. Here are a few quote paragraphs that may be thought provoking to some of us:

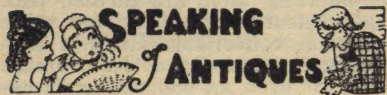
"A collector's doll should tell a story. It may be a story of costumes, manners, customs, tastes, unusual persons, or events of the past and present. The Service doll of today will become a record of World War II just as the dolls sold at the Sanitary Fairs during the Civil War have become part of the story of that period. Regional dolls currently sold tell us of American occupations in various states, old dolls correctly costumed tell a story of the past and foreign dolls dressed in the colorful peasant costumes of their respective countries constitute a valuable record.

"Many present day collections are being made by schools and libraries. Such groups as are ac-

cumulating them are thrilled with the pleasure and educational value of such collections. Historic personages, book characters, foreign folk, or even an odd materials assemblage demand a vast tribute of attention. 'Visual Education' is text book for really seeing the things and people about which the teacher talks.

"One logical doll display for library shelves might be small citizens of Bookland because they are life-like little figures that may be scattered among the books that tell about them. Heroes of history or legendary lore, characters from the classics, friends from childhood tales, or learned and sterner writings might be portrayed.

"Museums in general are institutions which accept the theory that the human face is eye-minded. This means that knowledge gained through visual imagery is apt to be more readily acquired and more lastingly retained than knowledge acquired through auditory imagery. Directors of museums have utilized the appeal of the doll in its various forms to add to the educational value of their museum possessions. True, there are libraries for students, but only those who are motivated by strong curiosity or interest will read a book on the life of the Filipinos. But even the ordinary, indifferent, disinterested person will find his interest captivated by the Smithsonian display of almost life-size images of Filipino people in a family grouping. The dolls catch the passer-by's interest. Interest is one of the steps in learning. Man may be bored by the printed page, but he will likely stop to look with interest when he sees an image made in the likeness of himself."



Last time under this heading, the end sentence was a promise "Bigger ones next time." This followed quite a few offerings on small ones, which, by the way, proved so popular that we are here listing more before getting on with "doll sized dolls."

Doll house young man, 5 inch size, all perfect and original with bisque head and limbs. Hair modeled into a smooth, brown bob; legs in high, black, heeled boots. Beautifully dressed in brown velvet Pilgrim costume with moire lined cape and Puritan style felt hat. No. A714, \$10.00.

Same period, doll house "little sisters"—pair of  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inch twins with modeled golden hair that is softly short with bangs. Their inch long china legs in black high shoes are especially cute. Not well dressed, but perfect little cloth body dolls with pink bisque heads and arms, the pair, No. A715, \$9.50.

All bisque boy tot, wire jointed at hips and shoulders. Very pretty blonde curls with side part;  $6\frac{1}{4}$  inches, big and chubby. A716, \$4.00.

All bisque girl with small inset glass eyes and old wig. Wire jointed, nicely modeled child,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches tall in original 1900 clothes. No. A717, \$8.50.

Wire jointed bisque baby of light pink color with band and briefs of blue trimmed white fired into the bisque baby "curly" legs; no cloth garments;  $3\frac{3}{4}$  inches,

No. A538, \$3.50.

Stone bisque blonde with a cross expression that might qualify her as the mother who lived in a shoe—one to group with "so many children!"  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inch size, we know she has been assembled as her flat soled, glazed china legs are older and more valuable than her head. As is, No. A718, \$4.95.

Little bonnet head from the same collection is  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inch over all, 2 inch high head is stone bisque with long curls, necklace and cross and cavalier hat (blue) modeled on. Shoulder mend; good old china arms and round gartered legs; dressed, No. A719, \$9.75.

Small ones are sometimes expensive. Here are three that are excellent collector items and on that order. Large for a Frozen Charlotte, good  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches, pretty little high brow with soft vertical curls that are pale blonde! Luster like glaze, "Amy Charlotte" is a rigid little beauty, perfect except for thin chip off of one bare foot. Prettily dressed in floor length formal. Her era would not far miss the Civil War. No. A720, \$23.00.

Fine Parian "Frozen Charlotte" tot, pretty and perfect; long, baby like body with proper creases, short blonde wig, really sweet.  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inch size. No. A646, \$18.00.

Most rare, small ball head china of the 1850's. Scant 7 inches tall, her perfect and really lovely head is  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch size. Pale blonde curls with bangs is finest real hair. Slim, old flat soled feet and shapely legs are original but slender arms are replacements. No. A704 (some call Biedermeier), \$62.50.



What charms old dolls do have—in any size—but since we promised those bigger ones, here goes for five, made of five different materials.

Bisque head "Susie" has in her favor, huge brown eyes under rather heavy brows. Well shaped ears, pierced front to back, tautly strung body, jointed even at the wrists. Blonde wig is fair, peeled off so the head could be stuffed for traveling as those handsome eyes are still set to sleep perfectly. Twenty-two inches tall, dressed in pin dot pink dimity frock and old pink sunbonnet; ruby glass bead are drops. No. A721, \$18.00.

Waxed girl doll, 26 inches tall, is named "Vera June" on account of her former "mother." It's an early head with those rounding eyes of porcelain or opaque glass, big, dark brown blob of pupil on white. Wooden limbs with spoon type hands, slim body and nice antique cotton clothes. Cream muslin dress with little brown roses print has six carefully hand run tucks in the skirt and her brown chip straw hat a masterpiece from some milliner of long ago. Head would date around 1860, but the human hair wig with coronet braids must have come a couple of generations later. Vera J. is a pert looking character - good doll - No. A674, \$45.00.

China—we just have to put in double here. First, an especially well painted blonde, with ordinary hair styling, but extra-ordinary chest. Modeled on is a sort of double locket and chain, raised under glaze, with two jet stones of graduating sizes set into the

depressions. Five and a half inch head height over all, 21½ inches; perfect head and old arms with slender long fingers; replacement china legs. She is handsomely gowned in rich, antique black with old beaded braiding. No. A710, "Widow Jet," circa 1880-85, is \$50.00.

The second big china headed one also has chest embellishment, brunette "Bertha" with name and Peter Pan collar gilt edged on her 6½ inch size head. Complete doll with old leather hands and shoes is 25 inches tall. Perfect, artistically dressed in gray cotton print with bands of corded puff trimming on pointed front basque. Dress does need laundering but is easily removed as it fastens with tiny hooks and eyes. Very pretty and well painted; dates about 1895, No. A660, \$30.00.

Composition—there happen to be several interesting old dolls of this type in at present, but twins will get the offer. There's such a pair of identical characters with "paper weight" blue eyes, home made, brown wigs of family hair and oh, such ruddy complexion! They're about sixty years old, never were the expensive type, but solid citizens with hand crochet on their tucked muslin petticoats and the silliest little yellow tatted hats. "Betty Blue" and "Bonnie Bee" are 20 inches tall, have rather short arms and plebeian plump legs. Two dolls, identically trigged out and two wing chairs in which they sit while calling - all - No. A693, \$27.50.

The fifth big girl of a different material is "younger," one of

those very heavy and pretty celluloid heads with a modeled bob of wavy, light brown, and inset glass eyes of blue. Five and a half inch head, 19 inch doll in child proportions with composition arms. Sweetly dressed in old corded silk frock of ivory tone with pink stripe. Perfect condition; about World War I era, No. A708, \$14.50.

Not antique at all, but First Edition Shirley Temple, 15 inch size, with name on back. Swivel neck, sleeping eyes, blonde wig, jointed composition. No. A541, \$11.00.

Next time—middle sizes!

## INNOVATION

Irene Nielsen and R.S.M. have recently had a bit of battledore correspondence following through on her suggestion that we date all enclosures.

"Why?" I ask, explaining that they are merely current sheets, here today — gone tomorrow. "Now, in D.T. itself, that's different," I explain, suggesting that wisdom therein may be handed down to posterity!

But Irene comes back insisting that dear old friend Sarah Midgley is not the only one who files away every squib from Kimport. Says she, "We collectors are apt to be the paper-bag-putter-away type. You'd be surprised (dismayed, I'll bet) to see some of our accumulations."

Irene is probably correct, and we can humor her by dating enclosures henceforth, but mercy me, hope she doesn't really mean to have them printed, on paper bags!

## HEAR YE, HEAR YE

We have had no official notification, but somebody wrote to ask if we knew the Federal Government had set aside a period of September 14 through the 20th as National Doll Week. My, my, what will the Federal Government be setting aside next! Sure an' Kimport is for Dolls, 365 days of the year, but we and you have managed so far on private initiative. Sometimes we even feel that we and you and the dolls could get together lots easier if said F. G. would sponsor a few weeks on less records and bookkeeping!

Oh, about this National Doll Week — if there is such a thing, we'll be happy to cooperate with all sorts of reasons and angles why the keenest people are fascinated by dolls. That's the class that collects. We know, and have a wonderfully happy business working with them — with you.

## A TOM THUMB MEMORY

There is one notation on the Kimport keysheet of Mrs. Lester N. Hayden which reminds us "Likes some large dolls — over 20," and "rare antiques." When Mrs. Hayden wrote in for that little Newark Museum Book (\$1.00) reviewing some of the old paper dolls, she wrote: "I used to live about five minutes walk from Tom Thumb's house. One morning I went in to see them and there they were, eating breakfast. That dear little couple, for all the world they looked like a pair of Jumeau Dolls! I will always remember that lovely morning."



### DOLL TALK

A magazine in miniature, published for doll enthusiasts. Issued about every eight weeks.

Subscription is \$1.00 for two years.

Address:

**KIMPORT DOLLS**  
Independence, Mo.

### CORRESPONDENCE CLIPPINGS

"Doll Talk is just like taking a peek into your shop when one opens the page, I thoroughly enjoy it."

—Wernith L. Errington, W. Va.

"I certainly do not want to be 'discontinued'!". I have every copy I ever received bound into books with hard covers. On one brown binding I painted a picture of a doll pushing a wheelbarrow with a tiny doll in it, and the letters Doll Talk in green."

—Charlotte Ruddick, New York

"On a recent trip with the whole family the conductor very gravely gave each moppet a 'ticket' for her doll. Seems as if dolls have their magic for all ages and occupations!"

—Lillian Weber, Wash.

"I have 39 bonnet dolls but there are many I have seen and do not own; and probably more I have not seen! There just never is a time in doll collecting when one can sit back smugly and say: 'Now, I have an example of every old doll!'"

—Mrs. William M. Ahlstrom, Ohio

"In a few months I will need a small, nice, but inexpensive bisque baby head socket-type plus hands to assemble for a gift for a mother-to-be. I made up a little Dream Baby for my cousin who really cares nothing for dolls and it pleased her very much. It is the temporary occupant of the bassinet and gets almost as much praise as the intended occupant will get soon."

—Edith Avrin, California.

"I am still showing my Dolls and giving a talk on 'Costumes and Customs of Other Lands.' They have been shown to more than 8,000 people in the eleven years since we started our hobby."

—Mrs. A. H. Scott, Minn.

"You do put out tempting bait. I can't afford a doll right now, but you know you'll get it. I always manage to 'manage.' These really good 'portraits' are my special love."

—Angela Peterson, Texas.

"Rex and Queenie arrived safely and we are thrilled with them. They do look just like the real rodeo folk that we saw on our vacation when they came into town all dressed up!"

—Mrs. Ruth Warrington, N. Y.

"My friend, Mrs. Kilheffer, is enjoying her introduction to Doll Talk. She recently returned from a trip to the Orient, where she acquired some lovely dolls, but she says my Filipinos from Kimport are much superior to those she got in Manila."

—Mrs. F. H. Wagner, Pa.



Many a question comes Kimport way that, with its answer, would be of general interest. Nearly all of them are intelligent, some too profound for us to answer, and once in a while one silly enough for a laugh. We'll not promise a regular run for the Doll Talk Q. and A. choo-chew, but maybe a sort of intermittent accommodation special. No signatures will be used, so ours may be the only ignorance exposed.

Q. "Why are Kewpies so difficult to get? They're not so antique, were inexpensive and certainly plentiful."

A. 1908 Original patent by Rose O'Neil was not so recent either. Many were broken, treasured as keepsakes, thrown away as outmoded junk, fact remains we gladly buy all good German bisque Kewpies offered to us and never have a surplus.

Commercial composition Kewpies were brought back in 1947, using the old heart shaped trademark. These are toys, not a collector item.

"Q. I have been given my great aunt's china doll head. It is 4½" high, and there are also one arm and two original china legs. I'm so vague about proper body measurements, and is there any place to get one other arm?"—E.S.B.

A. A single limb is almost never of any value, rarely can be matched, but a 4" long new pair can be had. With a 4½" head, doll height should vary from 17 to 21 inches, depending on depth of shoulders—

how much is really head height from chin up.

Q.—What ever happened to those dolls and their makers that you imported from Athens?

A.—The Near East Relief Foundation reported recently that they are gradually working back into a semblance of efficiency, but have not found anybody yet who could do the sweet little doll heads like we used to get.

"What do you call them — Pillar Dolls, Frozen Charlottes or All-in-one Dolls?"

"A rose — would smell —!" So may I add "Rigid Dolls" as that has been used as a classification, also, "Cake Dolls," which title I traced down to find it meant the tiny, one piece chinas that were put in fortune cakes along with thimble, ring, etc.

Q.—What do you really think about the collector value of dolls made by the H.D.D.H. - by Mrs. Clear - or Lillian Smith?

A.—I am glad to answer your question about the Emma Clear dolls, as follows. Remembering my experience when they were first shown several years ago at the Chicago Antique Show, a good many of the dealers were up in arms because these dolls had not been signed and dated. Some antique dealers freely admitted that they were such perfect replicas that had one been brought to them in soiled or battered condition with the claim that it had come from somebody's attic, that they could easily have been fooled!

Both Mrs. Clear's and Lillian Smith's dolls have a definite value as collector items all their own.



They are beautiful and some doll connoisseurs buy a whole group of them. I believe each H.D.D.H. doll lead is now signed and dated on the back of the shoulders, as they should be. Mrs. Smith bought out the entire business in 1949.

### PAGING DAGWOOD

This is the story of how Miss Olive Benedict's Doll Hobby threw a tangent. As a school teacher, Miss B. had used her dolls long and successfully - visual education, you know. Well, one time she put in a few comic strip folk in doll form, perhaps a Little Lulu, Mammy Yokum, Orphan Annie - I don't know who, but say, those second graders surely did!

School teachers are the world's best at bridging chasms between themselves and their young charges, so true to form, there was a flash decision that teacher should study up on "the Funnies."

How Miss Benedict widened her acquaintance with newspaper comics and used her new hobby as a teaching help was told in a feature story in Lynn, Mass. Item. She began a campaign of writing comic strip artists for autographed drawings. Her collection now includes about fifty. A special drawing of Jiggs and Maggie and a dog on skates was prepared for Miss Benedict by George McManus. Dahl of the Boston Herald drew her a face of his famous cow, chewing a daisy. Miss Benedict collects originals only from artists who draw what she considers wholesome strips.

Sounds like the lady has a persuasive way with gentlemen of the press, as well as with her second graders.

### Q. & A. - P. S.

All of those initials do not mean the birth of another bureau — Heaven forbid! It's just what we expected would happen when we printed the questions you pose and inadequate answers we admit.

Re the Trimpey Question in last issue, Vera Chatfield sends in a quote from Milwaukee Journal of December 23, 1952 — "Christmas is a time for dolls and good time for looking at the state historical society's new exhibition of 200 dolls dating from 1725 to the present. In the Madison exhibit are the collections of the late Alice Trimpey, Baraboo, and Amelia C. Baird, Eau Claire." Then quite a bit of descriptions.

Mrs. J. E. Dorf wrote: "You spoke of Mrs. Trimpey's dolls in your last issue and I thought maybe you'd like to know that most of her dolls are now on display in cases at the Wisconsin Historical Museum at Madison. They are well worth viewing, especially Major Du Pont and Violet, the Montenari dolls.

Mr. Bert Trimpey, her husband, died in July of 1948 and left the museum his 150 piece collection of English luster, said to be one of the most notable in the middle west. A tea was given the following October, but at that time she was very frail and died the following February 9, 1949. She willed her dolls to the museum, copyright to her books to Mrs. Betty Cass Willoughby, and "Becky" was buried with her. Mr. Trimpey had been a photographer before he went into the antique business, so had taken many pictures of the dolls."



If

If our little girls and boys hear about—oh—a Mohammedan child from Pakistan, a lad who calls God "Allah," if our children are read the stories of what he eats, how he plays and dresses, where he lives and what sort of tales are told by his Amah—all of this becomes real and beloved to our children. This is especially true if there be a doll from that land that personifies the race, the religion, the native color.

If



If school children, even Kindergartners, could have become intimately acquainted with World Dolls back about 1934-5, when Kimport was getting under way, that generation, now vigorous young adults, would cherish an ingrown understanding of youngsters from other lands.

If



If collections of authentic dolls could be assembled for schools by Parent-Teacher Associations, such groups would really be "visual education" in its easiest, most understandable form. There is no "if" about how children would enthuse. Explained, tied in with folk lore, dances, songs and games of foreign folk, would surely lead to understanding, friendship for the people far away who look just like "Our Dolls."

World Friendship is a goal afar, but what a goal! Young minds are open; youthful hearts are generous, preferring love to hate, so anyway you can, please let your doll collection serve.

SEND ALL ORDERS TO:

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**KIMPORT DOLLS,** Independence, Mo.